

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 USPS-02 L-03 H-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00

ABF-01 M-03 RSR-01 RSC-01 /037 W

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R 292003 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4535

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 1620

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETEL, UY

SUBJ: URUGUAYAN POSTAL DEBT

REF: A) MVD 1373 B) STATE A-3360

1. GOU POST OFFICE ACCOUNTANT HAS RETURNED TO EMBASSY THE STATEMENT OF POSTAL ACCOUNTS WHICH HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO POST OFFICE (REF A), CALLING ATTENTION TO APPARENT DISCREPANCY AND ASKING US TO REPORT IT TO U. S. POSTAL SERVICE. APPARENT DISCREPANCY CONSISTS OF FOLLOWING:

2. U. S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF MARCH 29, 1973 INCLUDES SEVERAL ITEMS WHICH GOU POST OFFICE CLAIMS TO HAVE PAID LAST YEAR, NAMELY: UNDER PART I OF GENERAL STATEMENT OF POSTAL TRANSACTIONS, TOTAL OF 26,586.38 GOLD FRANCS IN U. S. COLUMN; AND UNDER PART II, FIRST SIX ITEMS (DEC. 1970 THROUGH MAY 1971) UNDER HEADING OF " AIR CARRIER" AND FIRST FOUR ITEMS UNDER HEADING OF " AIR MAIL" IN U. S. COLUMN. ALL ABOVE ITEMS TOTAL 141,999.01 GOLD FRANCS. DEDUCTED FROM THEM IS 15,490.00 GOLD FRANCS APPEARING AS FIRST ITEM IN URUGUAY COLUMN UNDER PART II, FOR NET TOTAL OF 126,509.01 GOLD FRANCS.

3. GOU POST OFFICE CLAIMS THAT THE ABOVE NET TOTAL WAS CANCELED BY ITS PAYMENT OF 20,664,655 URUGUAYAN PESOS ON MARCH 2, 1972. THAT PAYMENT, AT THE EXCHANGE RATE
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THEN PREVAILING (500 PESOS PER US DOLS) AMOUNTED TO DOLS 41,320.30.
THE MARCH-2 PAYMENT WAS REPORTED BY MVD 464 OF MARCH 2,
1972. IT WAS MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES SUBSEQUENTLY IN
MESSAGES BETWEEN EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT DURING 1972,
INCLUDING MVD 841 OF APRIL 13, STATE AIRGRAM A-4908 OF MAY
15, MVD 11 76 OF MAY 16, AND STATE 087300 OF MAY 18.

4. IT APPEARS THEREFORE THAT THE ITEMS SHOWN IN THE GENERAL
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF MARCH 29, 1973 AS DUE THE U. S.,
AND WHICH WE HAVE DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 2, WERE PAID BY
THE 1972 PAYMENT DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 3. IT WILL BE
RECALLED THAT DURING THAT PERIOD THE GOU MINISTRY OF
ECONOMY AND FINANCE WAS ASSUMING DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE POSTAL DEBT PRIOR TO 1970, WHILE GOU POST OFFICE
PAYMENTS WERE TO BE APPLIED TO THE POST-1969 POSTAL DEBT,
WHICH IS WHAT WE ARE CONCERNED WITH IN THIS CASE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE CORRECTION
OR CLARIFICATION BY U. S. POSTAL SERVICE OF THE SEEMING
DISCREPANCY WHICH THE GOU POST OFFICE POINTS OUT.
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